

**1TITLE 126  
LEGISLATIVE RULE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SERIES 149  
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR WEST VIRGINIA EDUCATORS (5500)**

**§126-149-1. General.**

1.1. Scope – This rule provides guidelines for the coordination and delivery of high quality professional learning experience for West Virginia educators. The rule defines/delineates roles and responsibilities among the various state and regional professional learning providers.

1.2. Authority – W. Va. Constitution, Article XII, §2; W. Va. Code §18-2-5 and §18-2I-1 et seq.

1.3. Filing Date – February 12, 2016.

1.4. Effective Date – July 1, 2016.

1.5. Repeal of Former Rule – This legislative rule repeals and replaces W. Va. 126CSR149, West Virginia Board of Education (hereinafter WVBE) Policy 5500, Professional Learning for West Virginia Educators, filed July 12, 2013 and effective August 12, 2013.

**§126-42-2. Purpose.**

2.1. The purpose of this policy is to provide rules that encourage and assist the coordination, development, and evaluation of high-quality professional learning programs for West Virginia educators.

**§126-42-3. Goals for Professional Learning.**

3.1. The goals for professional learning will be established annually by the WVBE.

**§126-149-4. Master Plan for Professional Learning.**

4.1. All professional learning providers shall submit their professional learning plans to the WVBE no later than May 1. Upon approval of the WVBE, those professional learning plans shall be compiled into the statewide master plan for professional learning for the upcoming school year.

**§126-149-5. General Responsibilities.**

5.1. The WVBE has the responsibility to:

5.1.a. develop a comprehensive definition of professional learning;

5.1.b. articulate standards for professional learning;

5.1.c. establish annual goals for professional learning;

5.1.d. develop a master plan to support professional learning that includes the established comprehensive definition of professional learning and the standards for professional learning ; and

5.1.e. conduct an evaluation of the master plan for professional learning to determine the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of the professional learning.

5.2. The West Virginia Department of Education (hereinafter WVDE) has the primary responsibility for providing leadership in communicating the goals and standards for professional learning within and to the WVDE, the Center for Professional Development, the Regional Educational Service Agencies (hereinafter RESAs), district instructional leaders, and the state's public institutions of higher education educator preparation programs. It is further the responsibility of the WVDE to:

5.2.a. develop guidance, processes, definitions, and protocol resources to support the design and delivery of a comprehensive professional learning process:

5.2.a.1. to assist districts and RESA with the selection, design, implementation, and evaluation of high-quality, professional and personalized learning experiences that maximize funding resources available and adhere to WVBE Goals for Professional Learning and the WV Professional Learning Standards ; and

5.2.a.2. to support participation in required evaluation studies to be submitted to the WVBE, Governor, and the Legislative Oversight Committee on Education Accountability (hereinafter LOCEA); and

5.2.b. develop a systemic approach to provide ongoing assistance for integration of high-quality professional learning experiences:

5.2.b.1. content area expertise and guidance to support program implementation at the RESA level or with district chief instructional leaders;

5.2.b.2. online professional and personalized learning courses and resources that are aligned with requirements leading to educator certification and licensure, endorsement, or professional growth; and

5.2.b.3. educator resources that focus on intentional, data-driven decisions to plan and facilitate personalized, professional learning experiences.

5.3. The RESAs shall assist in the implementation of WVBE policy requirements at the district and school levels through the following important responsibilities:

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5.3.a. provide technical assistance to districts to assist with implementation of high-quality, professional and personalized learning experiences aligned to the Standards for Professional Learning in a cycle of continuous improvement;

5.3.b. build capacity among RESA and district staff to ensure sufficient expertise in academic content areas and instructional approaches;

5.3.c. provide high-quality professional learning experiences to facilitate the delivery of high-quality educational programming;

5.3.d. provide technical assistance to schools to coordinate, plan, and use flexible scheduling to permit time for professional and collaborative learning on a consistent weekly/monthly basis;

5.3.e. facilitate coordination and cooperation among district instructional leaders within their respective regions in the design and delivery of ongoing support; and

5.3.f. utilize guidance provided by WVDE for appropriate and effective selection, design, implementation, and evaluation of vendors involved in professional learning.

5.4. It is the responsibility of the district to support, monitor, and ensure the fidelity of the implementation of professional learning experiences that are aligned to WVBE Goals and Standards for Professional Learning.

5.4.a. In carrying out this responsibility, the district plan shall be developed by the Local Staff Development Council (WV Code §18A-3-8) using data from:

5.4.a.1. West Virginia Support for Improving Professional Practice (hereinafter WVSIPP);

5.4.a.2. W. Va. 126CSR142, WVBE Policy 5310, Performance Evaluation of School Personnel

5.4.a.2.A. Professional Teaching Standards.

5.4.a.3. Student data from the West Virginia General Summative Assessment; and

5.4.a.4. Student evidence of learning from utilization of the formative assessment process.

5.4.b. It is further the responsibility of the district to develop and implement a professional and personalized learning plan that includes high-quality professional and personalized learning experiences to support all educators and support personnel in the delivery of high-quality educational programming. The plan should align, be incorporated into, and complement the district's Strategic Plan, specifically the WV Support for Improving Professional Practice Plan ensuring:

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5.4.c. It is also the responsibility of the district to ensure:

5.4.c.1. all West Virginia educators have access to high quality professional and personalized learning experiences that focus on individual professional growth of educators, student need based on acquired data, and school-wide goals for professional and personalized learning;

5.4.c.2. educators are engaged in learning with colleagues through a collaborative model to improve individual teaching practice, support student learning, and foster school-wide growth;

5.4.c.3. school-based professional learning communities examine student data to increase student achievement;

5.4.c.4. use of school budgets to support professional and personalized learning;

5.4.c.5. use of flexible and creative scheduling to create time for educators to participate in professional learning communities during the work day; and

5.4.c.6. reduction of the number of large-scale professional development offerings to focus professional learning in individualized and school-based settings.

### **§126-149-6. Severability.**

6.1. If any provision of this rule or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this rule.